

Message Text

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46

ACTION EA-13

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ADP-00 NSC-10 NSCE-00 EUR-10 L-02 PM-03

IO-03 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 DODE-00 DPW-01

PRS-01 RSR-01 /070 W

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R 281145 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1581

INFO AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

USDEL FRANCE

C O N F I D E N T I A L THE HAGUE 2901

LIMDIS

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, CA, NL, NZ

SUBJECT: DUTCH AS POTENTIAL REPLACEMENT FOR CANADIANS ON THE ICCS

1. NEW ZEALAND COUNSELOR MULLER SAW CHARGE ON JUNE 28 TO INQUIRE WHETHER ANY THOUGHT WAS BEING GIVEN TO THE DUTCH AS POSSIBLE REPLACEMENT FOR THE CANADIANS ON THE ICCS. MULLER ADDED THAT HIS PEOPLE HAD HEARD THAT THIS IDEA HAD BEEN BRUITED BY US REPRESENTATIVES IN PARIS. HE MADE IT CLEAR THAT HIS GOVERNMENT WAS NOT TAKING A POSITION ON A POSSIBLE DUTCH CANDIDACY BUT WAS INTERESTED IN THE GENERAL QUESTION OF FINDING A REPLACEMENT FOR CANADA (NEW ZEALAND ITSELF WAS EXCLUDED HE SAID BECAUSE IT HAD BEEN A COMBATANT).

2. CHARGE RECALLED THAT THE CANADIAN EMBASSY IN THE HAGUE, WHEN IT ADVISED OUR EMBASSY INFORMALLY OF THE GOC'S DECISION TO WITHDRAW FROM THE ICCS, HAD SUGGESTED THE DUTCH AS POSSIBLE REPLACEMENT. THE CHARGE TOLD MULLER HOWEVER THAT OUR EMBASSY HAD RECEIVED NO INFORMATION WHATSOEVER, THROUGH US OR DUTCH CHANNELS, AS TO A SOUNDING OF THE DUTCH ON THEIR INTEREST IN REPLACING THE CANADIANS. CHARGE SAID HE WOULD REPORT THE CONVERSATION AND INFORM

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MULLER OF WASHINGTON' S REPLY.

3. COMMENT: WE WOULD APPRECIATE WHATEVER INFORMATION THE DEPT
CAN PROVIDE TO RESPOND TO THE NEW ZEALAND INQUIRY. APART FROM
THE LARGER FACTORS INVOLVED AN APPROACH TO THE DUTCH ON THIS
POINT COULD BE HELPFUL IN THE CONTEXT OF US - DUTCH RELATIONS.
IF THE DUTCH AGREED TO SERVE THEIR PARTICIPATION IN THE ICCS
WOULD OBLIGE THEM TO FOCUS ON THE PRACTICAL ASPECTS OF KEEPING
THE PEACE IN VIET NAM. IT WOULD ALSO DETER THE NEW DUTCH GOVT
FROM GIVING VENT TO AN OUTSIDER' S CRITICAL VIEW.
TANGUY

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** LIMDIS
*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 JUN 1973
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973THEHA02901
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: THE HAGUE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730630/aaaajqpu.tel
Line Count: 78
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 SEP 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <19-Sep-2001 by smithrj>; APPROVED <20-Nov-2001 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> srp 980227
Subject: DUTCH AS POTENTIAL REPLACEMENT FOR CANADIANS ON THE ICCS
TAGS: MARR, CA, NL, NZ
To: EA
SECSTATE WASHDC INFO FRANCE
SAIGON
WELLINGTON
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005